

Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 FRB-03 OMB-01 TAR-02 SP-03 SWF-02

AGR-20 AID-20 CIAE-00 COME-00 INR-11 LAB-06 NSAE-00

OIC-04 RSC-01 SIL-01 STR-08 TRSE-00 CIEP-03 CEA-02

AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-14 L-03 DRC-01 /193 W

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R 161255Z SEP 74

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8273

INFO USUN NEW YORK 1049

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN UNCTAD

SUBJ: UNCTAD TDB XIV: DECLARATION AND PROGRAM OF ACTION

REF: GENEVA 5836

1. FOLLOWING PROVIDES BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON FINAL
NEGOTIATIONS AND VOTING ON REF RESOLUTION.

2. RE OP. PARA ONE: G-77 PROPOSED TEXT OF PARAGRAPH
BE TRANSFORMED INTO PREAMBULAR PARA BY AMENDING TO
READ: "CONSIDERING THAT ECOSOC IN ITS RES. 1911 URGED
GOVERNMENTS, ETC". AS QUID PRO QUO, RESOLUTION AS
AMENDED WOULD HAVE HAD TO BE ADOPTED WITHOUT VOTE. USDEL
COULD NOT ACCEPT SINCE OVERALL WEIGHT OF RESOLUTION WOULD
NOT HAVE PERMITTED ANYTHING MORE THAN ABSTENTION. MEMBERS
OF EC REJECTED ON GROUNDS THAT RESOLUTION, EVEN AS AMENDED,
WOULD MAKE NO REFERENCE TO RESERVATIONS ENTERED AT TIME
GA ADOPTED SUBJECT RESOLUTIONS.

3. RE OP. PARAS TWO AND THREE: G-77 OFFERED TO DELETE
USE OF "IMPLEMENTATION" IN FAVOR OF "ON BASIS OF" AND
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"IN FULFILLMENT OF TASKS ASSIGNED BY" ONLY IN EXCHANGE FOR

REFERENCE TO ECOSOC RES 1911. THEY UNWILLING NEGOTIATE USE OF "IMPLEMENTATION". IN SUBPARA 2C. WHILE MENTION OF ECOSOC RES DIFFICULT TO SWALLOW AND "ON BASIS OF" DEFINITELY NOT PRT NOT GENERALLY ACCEPTABLE FORMULATION FOR REFERRING TO DECLARATION AND PROGRAM OF ACTION, USDEL URGED ACCEPTANCE OF COMPROMISE ON GROUNDS THAT DROPPING OF G-77 COMMITMENT TO CONCEPT OF IMPLEMENTATION WAS MAJOR GAIN.

4. VOTING: DIFFICULT MOMENT CAME IN PRESIDENT'S SMALL GROUP WHEN G-77 INSISTED THAT OP. PARAS TWO THROUGH SIX BE ADOPTED SEPARATELY BY BOARD. HARDLINERS IN GROUP B IN GENERAL FELT CONSTRAINED TO ABSTAIN IN SUCH SITUATION. FOR ITS PART, G-77 FELT THAT ABSTENTION OF SOME DELEGATIONS ON WHOLE RESOLUTION WOULD TAINT THESE REMAINING OP. PARAS UNLESS THEY ADOPTED SEPARATELY, AND NOT WARRANT AMENDMENTS THEY WERE AGREEING TO. AS FINAL COMPROMISE TO CLEAR ROAD FOR BOARD ACTION, GROUP B AGREED THAT, FOLLOWING VOTE ON PARA ONE, AND IN EXPECTATION OF VOTE ON RESOLUTION AS A WHOLE, OTHER PARAS OF RESOLUTION WOULD BE ADOPTED WITHOUT A VOTE.

5. VOTING RESULTS: USDEL FEELS THAT OUTCOME OF VOTING WAS SIGNIFICANT ADVANCE FOR US POSITION. TREND IS FROM "ADOPTION WITHOUT VOTE" OF DECLARATION AND PROGRAM OF ACTION AT GA, SMALL HANDFUL VOTING AGAINST OR ABSTAINING AT ECOSOC, AND FIVE NEGATIVE VOTES ON OP. PARA ONE AND TWELVE ABSTENTIONS ON RESOLUTION AS AT WHOLE AT THIS BOARD. G-77 SPOKESMAN, IN PLENARY STATEMENT AFTER VOTE, CALLED ATTENTION TO FACT THAT SOME COUNTRIES' VOTING POSITION HAD HARDENED SINCE ECOSOC. ON OTHER HAND, US ABSTENTION ON RESOLUTION AS A WHOLE AT BOARD (1) RECOGNIZED G-77 MOVE AWAY FROM "IMPLEMENTATION" AND (2) WAS IN RESPONSE TO CLEAR WILLINGNESS OF G-77 TO NEGOTIATE REASONABLE COMPROMISES ON ALL BUT PARA ONE. WE HOPE THAT THIS TOO WILL HAVE BENEFICIAL EFFECT.

6. AS REFLECTED IN US STATEMENT, USDEL CONCERNED OVER UNCOMPROMISING G-77 POSITION ON REITERATION OF "FORMULA TEXT" OF OP. PARA ONE. IN RESPONSE TO G-77 SPOKESMAN LAMENT THAT GROUP B HAD REJECTED THEIR COMPROMISE PROPOSAL, USDEL (AMB. DAL) TOOK FLOOR A SECOND TIME TO PUT ON RECORD LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THAT US AND OTHER GROUP B COUNTRIES HAD OFFERED VARIETY OF COMPROMISE TEXTS WHICH HAD BEEN REJECTED BY G-77 IN MOST CASES OUT OF HAND.

7. COMMENT: FAVORABLE DEVELOPMENT IN TDB WAS THAT CONTENTION ON THIS ISSUE WAS CONFINED RATHER WELL TO THIS ONE SPECIFIC AGENDA ITEM. SEVERAL OF ORIGINAL LDC DRAFTS ON OTHER SUBJECTS CONTAINED PASSAGES CALLING

FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF PROGRAM OF ACTION, BUT LDC'S COMPROMISED FAIRLY RAPIDLY TO ACCEPTABLE REFERENCES SUCH AS "NOTING" OR "IN THE LIGHT OF". THIS MAY HAVE BEEN RESULT OF AMBASSADOR'S STRONG PLEA TO COREA AT LUNCHEON ON OPENING DAY OF TDB THAT DIFFERENCES ON PROGRAM OF ACTION NOT BE ALLOWED TO SPILL OVER TO OTHER AGENDA ITEMS, SINCE THIS WOULD DIVERT ATTENTION FROM OTHER ISSUES WHICH GROUP B WILLING CONSIDER ON THEIR MERITS. DALE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TRADE, VOTING, TEXTUTIONS, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS), UNGA RESOLUTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 SEP 1974
Decapton Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decapton Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: cunninfx
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974GENEVA05849
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740258-0921
From: GENEVA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740943/aaaabkiw.tel
Line Count: 123
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: GENEVA 5836
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: cunninfx
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18 JUN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <18 JUN 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <06 MAR 2003 by cunninfx>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UNCTAD TDB XIV: DECLARATION AND PROGRAM OF ACTION
TAGS: EGEN, UNCTAD, TDB
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005